R 100230Z OCT 82
AM-BOKASSA 3 KIGALI

THE EMPEROR TOLD REUTERS THAT THOSE WHO DIED (WERE NOT CHILDREN, BUT GROWN-UPS, YOUTHS. I CAN CERTIFY THAT ONLY 13 DIED IN THE JANUARY RIOTS. BUT I AM NOT IN A POSITION AT PRESENT TO SAY HOW MANY DIED LAST MONTH."

HE BLAMED THE RIOTS -- WHICH OTHER SOURCES SAID WERE BY SCHOOL CHILDREN PROTESTING THE COMPULSORY WEARING OF MILITARY-STYLE SCHOOL UNIFORMS -- ON AN UNNAMED FOREIGN POWER MANIPULATING STUDENTS TO OVERTHROW HIS EMPIRE P REPLACE IT WITH WHAT HE TERMED THE MARXIST REVOLUTION.

"I COULD NOT LET THEM DO IT AND GO ON WITH THEIR RIOTING," HE SAID.

(IN PARIS, AMBASSADOR BANGUI SAID HE WAS SETTING UP AN OPPOSITION MOVEME TO SEEK THE LIBERATION OF HIS COUNTRY BY PEACEFUL MEANS.

(HIS ACCUSATIONS ARE LIKELY TO CAUSE A MAJOR DISPUTE IN FRANCE, WHERE THE GOVERNMENT IS ALREADY UNDER FIRE FOR BEING EMPEROR BOKASSA'S MAIN BACKER. HE WAS A SERGEANT IN THE FRENCH ARMY BEFORE THE COUNTRY GAINED ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM FRANCE AS THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC IN 1966.)

REUTER 1319

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY RICS DATE 10/27/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. E.A.O.(S)
ENDORSE EXEMPTION PARA NO ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ UNCLASSIFIED☑
RELEASE DATE ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTION

R102

R 170817Z OCT 82
AM-TRAINS

BELGRADE, MAY 22, REUTER - THREE ENGINEERS DIED AND THREE MORE WERE INJURED WHEN TWO FREIGHT TRAINS COLLIDED BETWEEN ZAGREB AND RIJEKA IN WESTERN YUGOSLAVIA, OFFICIALS SAID TODAY.

THE CRASH BLOCKED THE COUNTRY'S MAIN RAILROAD LINK WITH WESTERN EUROPE AND THE ADRIATIC COAST.

REUTER 1320